

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4206

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, AR

SUBJECT: CALL ON MAYOR OF BUENOS AIRES, GENERAL EMBRIONI.

1. ON NOVEMBER 6TH I CALLED ON GENERAL JOSE EMBROINI, MAYOR OF BUENOS AIRES, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM KREBS, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE WILLIAMS, AND ACTING PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HECTOR CARAM-ANDRUET. I HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED WORD EXTRA-OFFICIALLY THAT A REQUEST BY ME TO CALL UPON THE MAYOR WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED.

2. THE MAYOR COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE CORDIAL. HIS FIRST QUESTION TO ME WAS: "ARE WE GOING TO BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE YOU REMAIN IN BUENOS AIRES?" HE MADE IT CLEAR, AS A LONG-TIME FRIEND AND CONFIDANT OF GENERAL PERON, THAT HE FELT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ARGENTINA ARE AND SHOULD BE FRIENDS. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD REMARKED TO GENERAL PERON THAT IF A COUNTRY DOES NOT KNOW WHO ARE ITS FRIENDS, IT CANNOT KNOW ITS ENEMIES. HE REPLIED THAT ARGENTINA IS WELL AWARE WHO ARE ITS FRIENDS AND ITS ENEMIES. HE REFERRED TO THE BASIC DOCUMENT OF PERONIST DOCTRINE WHICH HE HELPED

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PREPARE IN 1946 AND IN WHICH IT WAS STATED

UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS ARGENTINA IS AND WILL REMAIN PART OF THE WESTERN WORLD. THE ENEMIES OF THIS WORLD ARE THE MARXISTS. THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEADER AMONG THE COUNTRIES OPPOSING MARXIST DOMINATION OF THE WORLD. THEREFORE, ARGENTINA CAN ONLY BE A FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES.

3. I TOLD GENERAL EMBRIONI THAT THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AN ARGENTINE (PRESIDENT OF PEPSI-COLA ARGENTINA) WAS ACCOMPANYING ME TO SHOW THE SOLIDARITY OF THE OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN OUR DESIRE TO HAVE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE MAYOR AND THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THIS GREAT CITY AND TO OFFER TO HELP IN ANY APPROPRIATE WAY IN THE TREMENDOUS TASK OF SERVING THE NEEDS OF THIS CENTER OF ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE OF THE COUNTRY. I TOLD HIM THAT BOTH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN ARGENTINA WANTED TO REITERATE TO HIM OUR DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN PROMOTING TWO-WAY TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF TOURISM. WE OFFERED TO CONSULT WITH GENERAL EMBRIONI AND HIS STAFF ON ANY PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH OUR ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE USEFUL, SUCH AS OBTAINING TECHNICAL LITERATURE ON WAYS IN WHICH LARGE CITIES IN THE U.S. HAVE SOLVED PROBLEMS SIMILAR TO THOSE FACING BUENOS AIRES.

4. GENERAL EMBRIONI, IN A VERY FRIENDLY GESTURE, HAD AN AMERICAN FLAG FLANKING THE ARGENTINE FLAG IN HIS OFFICE. I FEEL THAT THIS GESTURE AND HIS CORDIALITY ARE ANOTHER INDICATION THAT THE PERONIST GOVERNMENT WANTS TO HAVE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH US. OF COURSE, THIS WILL NOT PRECLUDE THEM FROM PURSUING VIGOROUSLY WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE THEIR OWN INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS THE UNITED STATES.

5. I MIGHT ADD THAT GENERAL EMBRIONI IS WIDELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BELIEVED TO BE ONE OF THE PEOPLE PRESIDENT PERON IS HOLDING IN RESERVE FOR AN IMPORTANT POSITION IN THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AT SOME FUTURE RESHUFFLING OF MINISTRIES. HE AND GENERAL PERON SERVED IN THE ARMY TOGETHER, GENERAL EMBRIONI AS A CAPTAIN AND GENERAL PERON AS A COLONEL.
DECON: 11/7/74.
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